



Department of Justice

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FUGITIVE PAROLEE SENTENCED TO 92 MONTHS IMPRISONMENT FOR ILLEGAL FIREARMS POSSESSION

FRESNO--United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott announced today that Jeremy Scott Rutherford, 33, of Fresno was sentenced today by United States District Judge Lawrence J. O'Neill to 90 months imprisonment to run consecutive to a 10 month sentence he received previously for a parole violation. The defendant pleaded guilty on July 11, 2008 to being a felon in possession of a firearm.

This case is the product of a joint investigation by the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation as part of the U.S. Department of Justice's Project Safe Neighborhoods initiative.

The charges resulted after CDC agents and an ATF Special Agent arrested the defendant for being a fugitive parolee. Agents found a Winchester, model 12, short-barreled 12 gauge shotgun, in the rear bed of the truck in which Rutherford was a passenger. Rutherford admitted possession of the shotgun.

"A multi-convicted felon in possession of a gun is bad news waiting to happen. Today's sentencing provided good news; ATF is appreciative of the support and prosecutive efforts of the United States Attorney's Office", said Acting Special Agent In Charge Michael P. Gleysteen.

Rutherford has four prior felony convictions – 1996 and 1999 drug trafficking convictions for which he received 2 and 4 year prison sentences, another controlled substance offense from 2003 for which he received over 2 years imprisonment, and a 1996 conviction for

discharging a firearm at an occupied vehicle for which he received 3 years imprisonment. He also has 13 prior parole violations.

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